

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:531
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2016
HAL Projects
Kothapalli Smt. Geetha

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the HAL planned to start its composite Rs.4000 crore helicopter complex in Bengaluru and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the HAL plans to manufacture the lighter, three tonne machines the Light Utility Helicopter (LUH) for reconnaissance and surveillance, and the attack helicopter LCH and also overhaul and repair military helicopters, if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof;
- (c) whether the facility will boost HAL's aviation capability in the helicopter segment by producing three tonne to ten tonne class of helicopters, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether it is also a fact that currently, the Bengaluru Helicopter Division produces the indigenous 5.5 tonne ALH Dhruv for civil and military agencies, the older Cheetah, the Lancer and also the re-engined Cheetah choppers, repair and overhaul of the forces fleet, if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

- (a) HAL has planned to set up a manufacturing facility and take up Maintenance Repair & Overhaul (MRO) activities for Light Utility Helicopter (LUH) and other Rotary Wing Platforms near Tumkur, Karnataka. The foundation stone has been laid on 3rd January 2016.
- (b) Yes, Madam. HAL plans to manufacture LUH in the 3 tonne weight class category from its new helicopter factory near Tumkur, Karnataka.
Production of Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) is proposed to be undertaken at the existing facilities at Helicopter Complex, Bengaluru. Overhaul of Advance Light Helicopter (ALH), Cheetah and Chetak Helicopters is undertaken at HAL's Bengaluru and Barrackpore facilities.
- (c) Yes, Madam. The production of ALH in 5.5 tonne weight class category, planned manufacture of LUH in the 3 tonne weight class category and future plans of developing 10 tonne class category helicopter by HAL will boost HAL's Aviation capability.
- (d) Currently, HAL manufactures ALH Dhruv and Chetak, the re-engined variant of Cheetah Helicopter for Indian Defence Forces in its Bengaluru Division. Repair & Overhaul of ALH, Cheetah Chetak, Lancer Helicopters is undertaken at HAL's Bengaluru & Barrackpore facilities.
